THE COMIC READER

MAY NO. 97

35¢

THE COMIC READER #97 may 1973

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AD RATES

The next available ad space is in #100 (Aug) and is available for $20 per page, 2 pages available. No other space available in 1973.

BACK ISSUES

Any available back issues are listed on page #23.

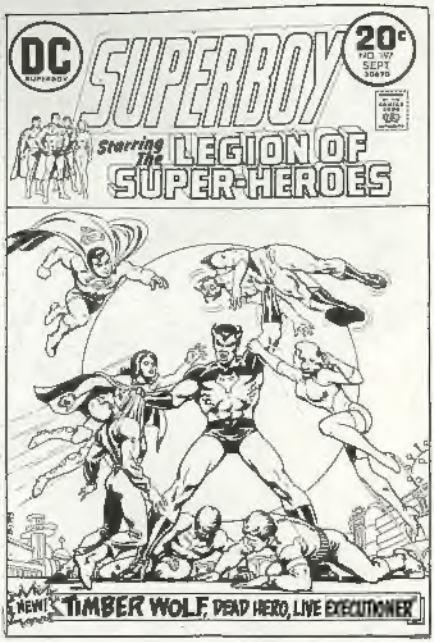
DEALERS' RATES

The Comic Reader is available at very liberal wholesale rates to anyone who wishes to place a regular monthly order of 25 or more copies. Price and details available on request.

PRINT RUN THIS ISSUE: 2,500 copies.

THE COVER: Allen Milgrom, young aspiring pro artist and writer, whose credits include scripting at Warren and assisting Murphy Anderson, contributes a version of Marvel's X-Men. The characters are (c) and TM Marvel Comics Group, 1973.

Next issue: June 10th, 1973



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NATIONAL

KING SIZE DEPT: Mid-July will see the release of National's third $1.00 King-Size title in the format established by last October's Rudolph and this May's Shazam magazines. This new mag will be a Tarzan $1 book, reprinting the four-part "Tarzan Of The Apes" adaptation by Joe Kubert from last year. Further $1 books are under consideration, but there is no word about the possible contents of the next one, or the projected schedule of release.

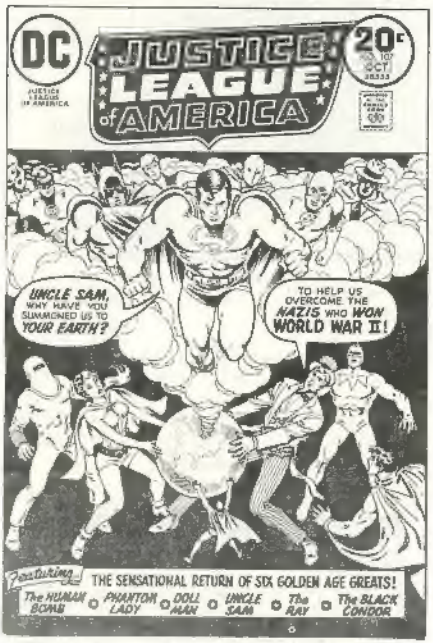
ADVENTURE COMICS DEPT: The Spectre progresses well, with the first story, "The Wrath Of The Spectre," already being in the National offices. The feature seems to be a development of the theme of "weird super-heroes" which should be quite successful based on the excellent sales of mystery mags these days.

The Black Orchid series will only be in four issues, as Shelly Mayer is currently under the weather and cannot script any more installments. The fourth episode is an eight-pager.

Captain Fear will return in many issues, by new scripter Steve Skeates and returning artist Alex Nino. No major changes in this series are contemplated.

A number of new series ideas are being worked on, but Deadman no longer appears to be among them. Once again Boston Brand has returned to the limbo of lost comic book characters. Arnold Drake is at work on some other series ideas, though.

BE PATIENT DEPT: Not scheduled yet: Joe Kubert's new jungle book (now in the works for close to a year) and the one shot Simon-Kirby-Royer Sandman title. As soon as room appears in NPP's production schedule (and Joe Kubert's), they'll see the light of day. Neither will appear before at least October, though.



DC SUPER SPECTACULAR DEPT: With the hundred pagers safely on schedule, there's no listing of a new one this issue, except for the fact that the previously misnomered House Of Mystery issue (#24, out around the magic time of Halloween) is now a Witching Hour issue, replete with stories from the early issues of that magazine.

SECRET ORIGINS #6 will probably feature The Legion Of Super-Heroes (from Superboy #147, an Eighty-Page Giant) and Blackhawk (from Military #1).

WRITERS & ARTISTS DEPT:

Dick Giordano solos on a Green Arrow story scripted by Elliot Maggin in an upcoming Action. Dick is also inking the previous issue's Atom story, pencilled by Dick Dillin.

Detective Comics will feature a logo similar to the Golden Age version when Archie Goodwin takes over as editor, complete with Jim Aparo Batman head with foot-long ears. Manhunter is due for an origin in Archie's third or fourth issue.

Bernie Krigstein's art shows up in the fourth issue of GI War Tales, along with Russ Heath and Mort Drucker art jobs.

A number of Shelly Mayer-Nestor Redondo art jobs are due to surface this summer from the inventory of stories bought when Redondo first joined NPP.

The mystery of Lena Lawrence, introduced in a recent Jimmy Olsen issue, is due to be solved in a way that nobody expected.

There will be a reprint of a Rock story in Our Army At War #261, followed by the conclusion of the round-the-world-odyssey story in #262.

Bernard Baily has illoed an episode of The Spawn Of Frankenstein. Steve Skeates is now doing the scripting.

JLA & SUPER-SPECTACULAR covers (c) 1973 National Periodical Publications, Inc.

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Curt Swan, Dick Giordano, and Irv Novick all have art jobs coming in Strange Sports Stories.

Champion Sports, meanwhile, is finally in and appears to be a magazine devoted to the exploits of young champion athletes. Script by Joe Simon, art by Jerry Grandinetti.

Cary Bates & Dave Cockrum are hard at work on Superboy Starring The Legion Of Super-Heroes (my nomination for longest magazine title of the year) #200, a book-length story featuring some turning points in Legionnaires' lives.

Supergirl is due for a run-in with Prez in a near future issue of her magazine (Bates, Saaf & Colletta).

Berni Wrightson's "Night Of The Bat" (Swamp Thing #7) is in and is my personal nomination for best drawn story of the year. Batman plays a rather minor role in the story, but it's so nice looking at the way he looks.

Chaykin's Ironwolf premiere is being lettered by Walt Simonson and inked by Howie Chaykin. The art represents a definite improvement in style. The plot is Chaykin's, with Denny O'Neil editing and dialogue. Future issues of Weird Worlds will feature 12 or 14 page Ironwolf stories, backed up by 6 or 8 page stories of the history of the "Ironwolf universe" à la Tales Of Asgard. The art will be by Walt Simonson.

Arnold Drake and Gerry Talaoc have a book-lengther coming up in Weird War #19.

Very special story department: Sergio Aragones wrote a fantastic four-page western story for Weird Western #20 which fits perfectly into the idea of unusual western stories. Art by Gil Kane.

Jonah Hex doing quite well, and is pushing El Diablo right out of WWT.

Murphy Anderson's back on the inking of World's Finest. Upcoming is a Superman-Batman-& Sons story.

Upcoming Archie Goodwin war back features include art by George Evans, Ken Barr, Adolfo Buylla, Ric Estrada, Frank Thorne, and Sam Glanzman. NPP staffer Val Eads has sold her first script to Archie for the war mags.

Mr. Tawky Tawny is due for a return appearance in an upcoming Shazam, in a new story by Denny O'Neil. Upcoming reprints include a Schaffenberger Marvel Family story.

NPP finally moving into its new offices (first announced back in TCR #79) around the middle of this summer.

The Shazam buttons that I mentioned some time ago will finally be made available to the public at the July Con here in NY, where NPP will have a table with all sorts of goodies, including The Shadow!

DC
20¢
HE'S BACK! THE MAN WHO BROUGHT YOU ALL THOSE WONDERFUL STORIES AND HORRIBLE DREAMS!
THE SANDMAN
COME SEE WHAT WEIRDIES I'VE DREAMED UP FOR YOU!
1st DC ISSUE
A SIMON AND KIRBY SPECIAL!

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MARVEL

As this issue goes to press (5/3), there are something like ten million changes going on at Marvel in formats, frequencies, writer/artist arrangements, as well as a half-dozen titles being cancelled and replaced by brand-new mags. None of the details of any of this has been settled yet, so I won't be able to tell you much. Most of it will be in the next TCR. A few extra covers will help soothe your fury at an abridged news section.

CRAZY remains very much up in the air as to contents and the like, with only thing being settled to my knowledge is that the cover is by Frank Kelly Freas. That book is set for July release, so I will definitely have full details next time round.

The Sub-Mariner is undergoing a complete revitalization, as Tales Of Atlantis is being dropped (as of #67) and Subby becomes "The Savage Sub-Mariner" as he gets a bit more of a costume. After the summer the book will become bi-monthly.

Rich Buckler may be doing the layouts on the Fantastic Four, freeing John Buscema from one of his least-favorite chores and enabling him to go onto more work for the black & white titles. John may be doing some black & white Conans for Savage Tales, as Smith seems to be falling behind again. Rich is remaining on Black Panther and Doc Savage (where his layouts are now being finished up by Frank Springer, lately returned to the comic book scene).

Contrary to rumor, Monster Madness is remaining at the 60¢ size, and will remain pretty much the same as it is now, although it will be more slanted towards articles in the future. Tony Isabella does the editorial work on that mag.

Solomon Kane returns in the third issue of Dracula Lives as he battles the Count.

Filling in for the missing six books a year on MCG's production schedule caused by the Subby item, there will be a reprint title featuring Iron Man and Captain America, completing the line-up of reprint titles.

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The reprint issues of Sgt. Fury have moved over to Special Marvel Edition to improve continuity, so now there will be seven new issues of Fury a year (as opposed to six under the old system, and leaving the way clear for a monthly Fury book with new stories) and twelve reprints in Special Marvel Edition (again a gain for collectors, as these are the older stories).

Both Savage Tales and Haunt Of Horror are now quarterly magazines.

More changes on King Kull...now the art is definitely by Ploog and it will be full-length, not 14 pages. Ploog is dropping Frankenstein because he didn't want to do a monthly mag, and will be doing material for Crazy and the black & white monster mags instead.

Don McGregor and Rich Buckler take over Morbius with the second issue of Vampire Tales. Over in Monsters Unleashed, both Frankenstein and The Man-Thing will be appearing semi-regularly. Tony Isabella is going to be writing MT, Gary Friedrich Frankenstein.

Alan Brennert, formerly of Fantazine, turns pro with a story in Haunt Of Horror #3.

Combat Kelly loses his Deadly Dozen in an upcoming issue.

My apologies for not mentioning earlier (like before it happened) that Kid Colt and Matt Slade traded places in Marvel's two western reprint anthologies. The move was obviously to put a strong character on the cover of both titles (Rawhide and Colt now). Word is that there's going to be new Marvel western stuff soon.

Tony Isabella is going to be taking over Brother Voodoo, as well as continuing his horribly punny voodoo stories ("Voodoo Unto Others" is only the beginning, folks).

The painting that leads off this news section is John Buscema's cover for the second issue of Savage Tales, before some re-touching was done (on an overlay, folks, Roy wanted the original for his home) and the type was added. The issue is listed in this issue's Coming Comics section.

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DC Coming Comics

COMING COMICS is a directory of upcoming releases from the various comic art publishers. The "on sale" dates are culled from the publishers' production schedules, and may vary in your area, depending on the perversions of your local wholesaler. The following is the format of each listing:

TITLE (Number, Cover date). A description of all known contents, credits for the features in this order: writer, artist, inker, and colorist if known. (On sale date)

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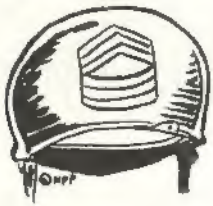
OUR ARMY AT WAR (260, September). Sgt. Rock's odyssey takes him to a hospital ship and an island whose natives are determined to commit suicide instead of surrendering. Script by Bob Kanigher, art by Russ Heath. An adventure of the U.S.S. Stevens by Sam Glanzman is also included. Cover by Joe Kubert. (6/5)



WEIRD WORLDS (7, October). The Edgar Rice Burroughs stories wind up this issue. The John Carter of Mars story is by Marv Wolfman and Sal Amendola and the Pellucidar installment is by Denny O'Neil and Dan Green. A preview of Howie Chaykin's Ironwolf series which begins next issue is included. Cover by Howie Chaykin. (6/5)

GHOSTS (18, September). In this issue: "Graveyard Of Vengeance" (art by Alfredo Alcala), "The Eye Of Evil" (art by Frank Redondo), "Death Of A Ghost" (art by Abe Ocampo) and "Death Came Creeping" (art by Patrico and Talaoc). (6/5)

YOUNG ROMANCE (195, October). (6/7)

JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA (107, October). It's June so it's time for the annual Justice Society classic, this year featuring some of the Quality super-heroes: Uncle Sam, Doll Man, Phantom Lady, The Ray, The Black Condor and The Human Bomb. "Crisis On Earth-X" takes the JLA-JSA heroes to a world where the Nazis won the second World War and the only people still fighting them are a handful of freedom fighters. Script by Len Wein, pencils by Dick Dillin, and inks by Dick Giordano. Cover by Nick Cardy. (6/5)

(CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE)

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THE SWAMP THING (6, October). This issue the monster meets "A Clockwork Horror" in a town of robot people, complete with Matt Cable and the agents of the Conclave. Script by Len Wein and art by Berni Wrightson. Cover by Berni Wrightson. (6/7)

SUPERMAN (267, September). The Man Of Steel investigates the mysterious "World Beneath The North Pole" in a story by Elliot Maggin with art by Curt Swan and Murphy Anderson. The Private Life Of Clark Kent takes a look at the time Clark had to get a public image in "The Man In The Public Eye" (script by Elliot Maggin, art by Curt Swan and Bob Oksner). (6/7)

SECRET ORIGINS (4, October). From Action Comics #42 the origin of The Vigilante, script by Mort Weisinger and art by Mort Meskin. From Hit Comics #25 the origin of Kid Eternity with art by Sheldon Moldoff. Cover by Nick Cardy. (6/7)

WEIRD WESTERN TALES (19, October). A split issue this month as Jonah Hex tracks down a man with a "Demon On My Trail" (script by John Albano, art by Tony DeZuniga) and El Diablo meets up with a gang of train hijackers in "The Fury Of The Haunted Horseman" (script by Cary Bates, art by Alfredo Alcala). Cover by Luis Dominquez of the Jonah Hex story. (6/7)

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KAMANDI (9, September). Kamandi visits the "Tracking Site" home of Ben Boxer's people and a mutant Misfit takes over. Script and pencils by Jack Kirby, inks by Mike Royer. (6/12)

100-PAGE SUPER-SPECTACULAR (20, September). THE BATMAN in an all Golden Age material issue.

Representing The Batman is a trilogy of Two-Face adventures: "The Crimes Of Two Face" (Detective #66), "The Man Who Led A Double Life" (Detective #68), and "The End Of Two-Face" (Detective #80).

Dr. Mid-Nite fights the Tarantula in an Alex Toth story from All-American #88. The Spectre visits a "World Inside A Painting" in a story from More Fun #66. Starman is represented by the "Case Of The Camera Curse" in a Jack Burnley story from Adventure #66. Wildcat fights The Huntress in "The Count That Never Ended" from Sensation #71 (art by Gil Stack). Black Canary in "An Orchid For The Deceased" from Flash #95. Blackhawk meets "The Girl Called Fear" in a Reed Crandall story from #13. Cover by Nick Cardy. (6/12)

G.I. COMBAT (164, September). The Haunted Tank takes on a submarine on the seas between Yugoslavia and Greece in "Siren Song" by Archie Goodwin and Sam Glanzman. "The Agean Eagle" is a World War One story set in Macedonia by George Evans. (6/12)

WITCHING HOUR (34, September). In this issue: "Dracula Had A Daughter" (script by Carl Wessler, art by Nestor Redondo), "Over My Dead Body" (script by Carl Wessler, art by Rubeny), "I Died Last Night" (script by Kashdan, art by Rival). (6/12)

HOUSE OF MYSTERY (217, September). In this issue: "This Ghost Town Is Haunted" (script by Shelly Mayer, art by Nestor Redondo), "Hoodoo You Trust" (script by E. Nelson Bridwell, art by Gerry Talaoc), and "Swamp God" (idea by John Jacobson, script by Steve Skeates, art by Alfredo Alcala). (6/14)

WORLD'S FINEST COMICS (219, October). Superman and Batman in "The Prisoner Of Rouges' Rock",

the first part of a two-part story. Script by Bob Haney, art by Dick Dillin and Frank Giacoia. Metamorpho in a mad bomber story--"Tick Tock Boom Boom" by Bob Haney and John Calnan. (6/14)

LOIS LANE (133, September). A book-length story features Lois as the Planet's editor while Perry is out of town. "The Lady Is A Bomb" is by Arnold Drake, John Rosenberger and Vince Colletta. (6/14)

UNEXPECTED (150, September). In this issue: "No One Escapes From Gallows Island" (script by George Kashdan, art by Ruben Yandoc), "Lost In Time" (script by Bill Dennehy, art by Gerry Talaoc) and "Color The Snow Red" (script by Bob Donnelly and Alfredo Alcala). (6/14)

FROM BEYOND THE UNKNOWN (24, October). The Space Museum story is "The Secret Of The Space Jewel" (art by Infantino) and the other stories are: "The Man Who Lived Forever" and "The Cartoon That Came To Life" (from Unexpected #1). (6/14)

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SECRETS OF SINISTER HOUSE (13, September). In this issue: "Deadly Muffins" (script by John Albano, art by Alfredo Alcala), "The Taste Of Blood" (script by Jack Oleck, art by Alex Nino), and "The Greed Inside" (script by John Albano, art by Jess Jodloman). (6/19)

SHAZAM (5, September). Captain Marvel meets a leprechaun and "The Man Who Wasn't" in a story by Elliot Maggin and C.C. Beck. "The World's Toughest Guy" meets the big red cheese in a story with a surprise cameo star by Maggin and Beck. From Marvel Family #25 comes "Captain Marvel Junior Fights The Champ." Cover by Beck. (6/19)

SUPERBOY AND THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES (197, September). It's time for a new format as The Legion becomes the main feature in Superboy's mag. Leading off is a 13-page story -- "Timber Wolf: Dead Hero -- Live Executioner" by Cary Bates and Dave Cockrum. Superboy is represented by "The Slay-Away Plan" by Bates, Bob Brown, and Murphy Anderson. (6/19)

DC
SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND
LOIS LANE
20¢
I-I WAS WARNED THIS DISASTER WOULD HAPPEN BECAUSE OF ME--BUT I DIDN'T BELIEVE IT!
THE CENTURY'S MOST EXPLOSIVE TALE--
"THE LADY IS A BOMB!"

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WEIRD WAR TALES (17, September). Bob Kanigher and George Evans contribute "Dead Man's Hands" and Pellowski/Bridwell and Chua add "A Gun Named Marie." Cover by Evans. (6/19)

GIRLS' LOVE STORIES (179, October). (6/21)

BATMAN (251, September). After over two years -- "The Joker's Five Way Revenge" by Denny O'Neil and Neal Adams. No adjectives necessary. The cover was printed last month. (6/21)

FOUR-STAR BATTLE TALES (4, October). In this issue are stories by Joe Kubert, Mort Drucker, and Russ Heath and a text profile of Joe Kubert. (6/21)

HOUSE OF SECRETS (111, September). In this issue: "A Watchtower In The Dark" (script by Gerry Conway, art by Tony DeZuniga), "Hair-I-Kari" (script by Maxene Fabe, art by Rory Gamboa) and "The Land Beyond The Styx" (script by Mike Fleisher, art by Gerry Talaoc). (6/21)

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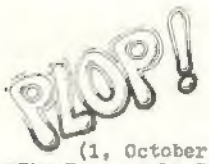

(1, October). In this issue: "The Escape" by Sergio Aragones, "Kongzilla" by Frank Robbins and George Evans, "The Message" by Shelly Mayer and Alfredo Alcala, and "The Gourmet" by Steve Skeates and Berni Wrightson, plus gag pages, texts and other features adding up to 36 pages of new humor material. The cover was printed in the last issue of TCR. (6/21)

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STAR SPANGLED WAR STORIES (173, September). The Unknown Soldier must impersonate a German wrestler and wrestle a Sumo warrior in "No Holds Barred" by Frank Robbins and Jack Sparling. "The Killer" by Bob Kanigher and Frank Thorne is an air-war story with cameos by some very familar faces. (6/26)

SWORD OF SORCERY (4, October). "The Cloud Of Hate" is a mysterious murderous cloud which battles Fafhrd and The Gray Mouser in a Fritz Leiber adaptation by Denny O'Neil, Howie Chaykin & Co. "The Prophesy" is a solo story of Fafhrd as a youth by O'Neil and Walt Simonson. (6/26)

THE FLASH (223, October). "Make Way For The Speed Demons" -- the fastest men on land, sea, and air-- they've raced the Flash and beaten him. Script by Cary Bates, art by Irv Novick and Dick Giordano. Green Lantern in "Doomsday Minus 10 Minutes" by Denny O'Neil and Dick Giordano. (6/26)

TARZAN OF THE APES (223, September). The conclusion of the "Return Of Tarzan" adaptation by Joe Kubert. (6/28)

STRANGE SPORTS STORIES (1, October). In this issue: "To Beat The Devil" by Frank Robbins, Curt Swan and Dick Giordano, a baseball story which pits a pennant-winning team against the one-man team of the Devil. "A Tall Tale Of Ten Pins" is a bowling story by Robbins, Swan, and Bob Oksner. Cover by Nick Cardy, printed in TCR #95. (6/26)

BOY COMMANDOS (1, October). "The Sphinx Speaks" takes place in the North African desert (from Detective #66). "Heroes Never Die" is from the Golden Age Boy Commandos #1. (6/28)

THE DEMON (12, September). The Baron Von Evilstein story winds up with "Terror City" in this issue. Script & pencils by Jack Kirby, inks by Mike Royer. (6/28)

ACTION COMICS (427, September). Superman meets "The Man Who Never Lived" in a story by Cary Bates, Curt Swan and Murphy Anderson. The Atom meets an old foe, Chronos, in "The Time Thief Strikes But Once" by Elliot Maggin, Dick Dillin and Dick Giordano. (6/28)

ADVENTURE COMICS (429, October). It's time for "A Challenge To The Black Orchid" in a story by Shelly Mayer and Tony DeZuniga, the second of the three 14-pagers. Captain Fear in "Pirate's Revenge" by Steve Skeates and Alex Nino rounds out the issue. (6/28)

MARVEL COMICS GROUP

Coming Comics

DAREDEVIL (103, September). More clues to the identity of Daredevil's mysterious master-foe...plus a new villain...plus a guest shot by Spider-Man in "...Then Came Ramrod" (script by Steve Gerber, pencils by Don Heck, and inks by Sal Trapani). (6/5)

INCREDIBLE HULK (167, September). Modok has created a giant robot body built to the same scale as his head, but he fears that The Hulk will destroy it -- so he plans to destroy The Hulk first. And he plans to use a lady who has cracked up on hearing of her husband's death: Betty Ross Talbot! Script by Steve Englehart, pencils by Herb Trimpe, and inks by Jack Abel. (6/5)

IRON MAN (62, September). Tony Stark and Pepper move on to Cincinnati, encounter the quite patient old Iron Man villain Whiplash. Script by Mike Friedrich, art by newcomer Craig Russell (with minor corrections by John Romita) and inks by Mike Esposito and Frank Giacoia. (6/5)

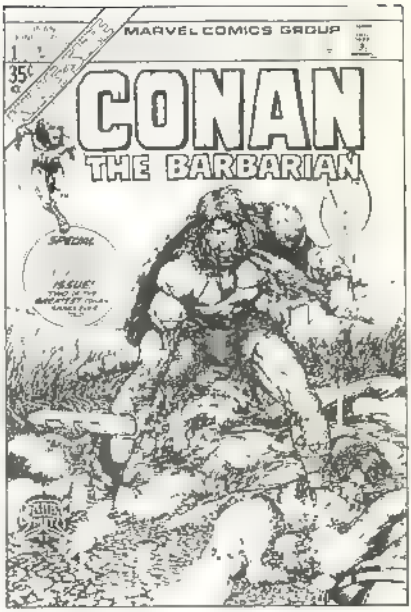
KID COLT OUTLAW (174, September). (6/5)

MARVEL SUPER-HEROES (38, September). "The Sub-Mariner Strikes" (script by Stan Lee, art by Jack Kirby and Dick Ayers) and The Hulk in "Less Than Monster, More Than Man" (script by Stan Lee, layouts by Jack Kirby, and finished art by Bill Everett) from Tales To Astonish #83. Now published seven times a year. (6/5)

MIGHTY MARVEL WESTERN (26, September). The Rawhide Kid with art by Jack Kirby, Matt Slade, and the Two-Gun Kid. (6/5)

MARVEL SPECTACULAR (2, September). Thor and Hercules in "The Verdict Of Zeus" (script by Stan Lee, art by Jack Kirby and Vince Colletta) from #129, plus "The Sword In The Scabbard" from the Tales Of Asgard series, also by Lee and Kirby. (6/5)

MILLIE THE MODEL (204, September). (6/5)



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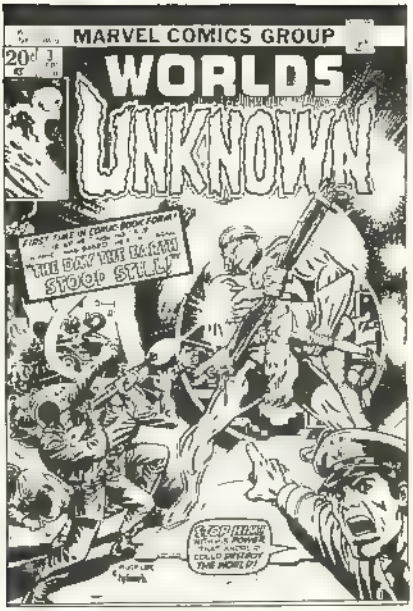
CONAN THE BARBARIAN KING SIZE ANNUAL (1, 1973). The first of three 48-page 35¢ annuals on sale this summer. Special ACBA Award issue with Conan's two nominated stories: "The Lair Of The Beast Men" (#2, Thomas & Smith) and "The Tower Of The Elephant" (#4, Thomas & Smith). (6/5)

WORLDS UNKNOWN (3, September). "Farewell To The Master" by Harry Bates is adapted by Roy Thomas, Ross Andru and Wayne Howard. This story was the basis for the movie "The Day The Earth Stood Still." (6/5)

TALES OF THE ZOMBIE (2, October). A two part, 22 page Zombie story by Steve Gerber and Pablo Marcos highlights the issue. In "Voodoo Island" the walking corpse of Simon Garth journeys to Haiti to search for a man who can return him to the peace of his grave. In the second part, "Night Of The Spider," he faces a human-sized killer spider who just happens to be his daughter. Other features: a memorial to Bill Everett by Jim Steranko, "Voodoo Unto Others" by Tony Isabella and Win Mortimer, "Twin Burial" by Chuck Robinson and Ralph Reese, texts on voodoo and Brother Voodoo by Chris Claremont and Tony Isabella, and reprints with art by George Tuska and Gene Colan. Cover by Boris Vallejo. (6/5)



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MONSTERS ON THE PROWL (25, September). (6/5)

WESTERN GUNFIGHTERS (17, September). Now published seven times a year. Featuring: Kid Colt Outlaw, The Apache Kid and The Black Rider. (6/5)

WHERE MONSTERS DWELL (23, September). Now published seven times a year. (6/5)

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AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (124, September). Introducing The Man-Wolf, as J.Jonah Jameson's son returns with a new affliction which makes him a were-wolf. Script by Gerry Conway, pencils by Gil Kane, and inks by John Romita. (6/12)

CAPTAIN AMERICA (165, September). The Yellow Claw's plans move into second gear as he breaks his ties with the Chinese Communists and announces war on the United States with a horde of monstrous spiders in the streets of New York. Both Nick Fury and the Falcon tell Cap to leave the Claw to SHIELD but he vows to go it alone...and causes a disaster. Script by Steve Englehart, pencils by Sal Buscema and inks by Frank McLaughlin. (6/12)

BEWARE (4, September). (6/12)

FRANKENSTEIN (5, September). "The Monster Walks Among Us" by Gary Friedrich and Mike Ploog. (6/12)

SUB-MARINER (65, September). Virago, a new villainess, has Subby in a bind: either he can fight her in the arena of her other dimensioned land...or he can watch his four friends be slaughtered. "The Cry Of The She-Beast" is scripted by Steve Gerber, with art by Don Heck and Don Perlin. Tales Of Atlantis finds young merman Kamuu nervously prowling the wreckage of the city when he comes upon "The Lurker In The Ruins." Script by Steve Gerber, art by Jim Mooney and Joe Sinnott. (6/12)

THOR (215, September). "The God Jewel" is draining the very life-forces of Sif and Karnilla away as Thor's band attempts to save them. Script by Gerry Conway, art by John Buscema and Jim Mooney. (6/12)

CHAMBER OF CHILLS (6, September). New stories in this ish, although I don't know details. (6/12)

CRYPT OF SHADOWS (5, September). Now seven times a year. (6/12)

MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS (44, September). The Fantastic Four in "Where Stalks The Sandman" from #61, by Stan Lee, Jack Kirby and Joe Sinnott. (6/12)

MARVEL TRIPLE ACTION (13, September). The Avengers in "The Coming Of The Swordsman" from #19 by Stan Lee, Don Heck and Dick Ayers. (6/12)

SPECIAL MARVEL EDITION (12, September). Sgt. Fury in "The Blitzkrieg Squad Of Baron Strucker" by Stan Lee, Dick Ayers and George Bell from #14. (6/12)

TWO GUN KID (112, September). Now seven times a year. (6/12)

VAULT OF EVIL (5, September). (6/12)

FANTASTIC FOUR KING SIZE ANNUAL (10, 1973). The wedding story from the 3rd annual leads off, backed up a Human Torch story. Lee & Kirby. (6/12)

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WAR IS HELL (5, September). (6/19)

THE AVENGERS (115, September). Two parts to this issue: First, the team flies to England to see why the Black Knight hasn't been heard from in several months, and runs into sub-human troglodytes lurking below the Garrett Castle. Second, two of Marvel's mightiest mystic villains set in motion the events which lead to the Avengers-Defenders clash. Continued in Defenders #8. Script by Steve Englehart, art by Bob Brown and Mike Esposito. (6/19)

CONAN THE BARBARIAN (30, September). This month an adaptation of the only REHoward-Lin Carter Conan story, "The Hand Of Nergal" by Roy Thomas (script), and John Buscema and Ernie Chua (art). (6/19)

FEAR (16, September). A book-lengther as the Man-Thing battles a very different kind of demon: unreasoning "progress", as a construction crew prepares to turn the swamp into an airport. The monster isn't the only one who feels threatened...there's also a tribe of Indians that have never signed a peace treaty with the United States. "Cry Of The Native" by Steve Gerber, Val Mayerik and Sal Trapani. (6/19)

HERO FOR HIRE (13, September). A special all-Billy Graham art issue as a NY City accountant is attacked by a talking, intelligent wild animal and Mayor Lindsay hires Cage to investigate. It all ends up at the circus with a midnight showdown against Lionfang! Script by Steve Englehart. (6/19)

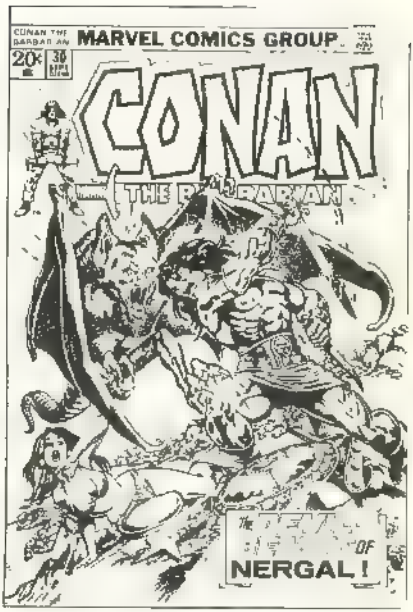
RAWHIDE KID (115, September). (6/19)

TOMB OF DRACULA(12, September). Drake, Blade & Co. trail Drac to a haunted house, and one of them does not leave it alive! Script by Marv Wolfman, art by Gene Colan. (6/19)

AMAZING ADVENTURES (20, September). Killraven must battle Warlord, a half-robot old enemy of his who's out for revenge. The War Of The Worlds continues by Marv Wolfman, Herb Trimpe and Frank Giacoia. (6/19)

GHOST RIDER (1, September). A new monthly home for the cycling demon. Script by Gary Friedrich, art by Jim Mooney and Tom Sutton. (6/19)

MARVEL FEATURE (11, September). Now devoted to Thing team-ups, beginning with The Thing and The Hulk versus The Leader and Kurrgo, the master of planet X. Script by Len Wein, art by Jim Starlin. (6/19)



(c) 1973 Marvel Comics Group

MARVEL TALES (45, September). Spider-Man in "Make Way For Medusa" from #62, by Stan Lee, John Romita and Don Heck. (6/19)

RED WOLF (9, September). Script by Gardner Fox, art by Syd Shores. (6/19)

RINGO KID (22, September). (6/19).

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN KING SIZE ANNUAL (9, 1973). Featuring "The Goblin Lives" from the second Spidey Spectacular by Lee and Romita. (6/19)

DRACULA LIVES! (3, October). Drac in "Lord Of Death, Lord Of Hell" which is a sequel to last issue's origin story, by Marv Wolfman, John Buscema and Syd Shores; Solomon Kane vs. Dracula in "Castle Of The Undead" by Roy Thomas, Alan Weiss and the Crusty Bunkers; and "Shadow In The City Of Light" (a battle with his ancient enemy Cagliostro) by Gerry Conway and Alfonso Font. Other features: an article by Doug Moench, a fiction piece about Abraham Van Helsing by Chris Claremont, two reprints, a bio of Stan Lee, and a book review by Don Thompson. Cover by Neal Adams. (6/19)

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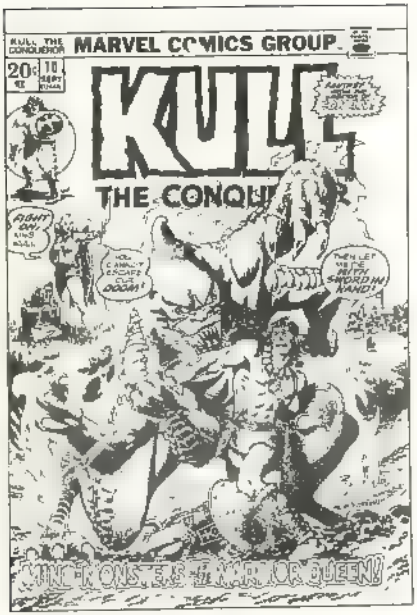

MARVEL TEAM-UP (13, September). Spider-Man and Captain America join forces to fight the Grey Gargoyle and AIM, who have been turning cities into solid stone! Script by Len Wein, art by Gil Kane. (6/26)

SGT. FURY (114, September). New material this month by Gary Friedrich and Dick Ayers. (6/26)

STRANGE TALES (169, September). A new monthly mag premieres with the origin of Jericho Drumm, who avenges his brother by assuming the incredible role of Brother Voodoo. The villain is Damballah, the Snake God, and the staffers are Len Wein, Gene Colan and Dan Adkins. (6/26)

WEREWOLF BY NIGHT (9, September). A group of bums under the control of the lord of the sewers capture the Werewolf. Script by Gerry Conway, pencils and inks by Tom Sutton. (6/26)

CAPTAIN MARVEL (28, September). Thanos journeys to Earth and battles the Destroyer for the Cosmic Cube while Marv-ell is busy fighting Iron Man's old foe The Controller. The Avengers guest star. Plot & art by Jim Starlin, script by Mike Friedrich, inks by Dan Greene. (6/26)

MY LOVE (25, September). (6/26)

CREATURES ON THE LOOSE (25, September). Thongor by Gardner Fox and Val Mayerik continues. (6/26)

FANTASTIC FOUR (138, September). The Miracle Man returns with new and stronger powers...plus the return of Wyatt Wingfoot. Script by Gerry Conway, art by John Buscema and Joe Sinnott. (6/26)

JUNGLE ACTION (6, September). The Black Panther finally starring in his own 14-page series as he returns to Wakanda and his life turns in many new directions. "The Panther's Rage" by Don McGregor, Rich Buckler and Klaus Janson re-introduces Monica Lynn and a host of others. (6/26)

KULL THE CONQUEROR (10, September). "The Albino Queen" is an amazon-type who's out to kill the king via Kaanuub in this issue's story by Gerry Conway and the Severins. (6/26)

MARVEL PREMIERE (10, September). Dr. Strange faces Shuma-Gorath at last, and must battle him inside the Ancient One's mind. The ending's a secret, but it's unique, and perhaps the most unusual occurance in comics in years. Script by Steve Englehart, pencils by Frank Brunner, and inks by the Crusty Bunkers. (6/26)

THE DEFENDERS (8, September). Two parts to this one,too. First the wrap-up of the Red Ghost-Attuma attack on Atlantis, as both Hawkeye and the Valkyrie are added to Red's legions while Dr. Strange and the Silver Surfer search the Earth for them. Part two finds the villains aforementioned putting their plan into action. (6/26)

SAVAGE TALES (2, October). Part one of Conan in "Red Nails," Howard's epic fantasy, by Roy Thomas and Barry Smith. "Dark Tomorrow" by Gerry Conway and Gray Morrow is an inventory story from the last time ST was being worked on. "Cimmeria" is Howard's poem illoed by Smith. Plus "The Skull Of Silence" (Berni Wrightson's Kull story reprinted with the stats cleaned up), "The Coming Of The Crusader" from Black Knight #1, A Probable Outline Of Conan's Career by P. Schuyler Miller and John D. Clark, and "REH:Lone Star Fictioneer" abridged by Roy Thomas from an upcoming book by Glenn Lord. Cover by John Buscema. (6/26)

Late News

At the right is a black and white version of the Metropolis poster. A planeful of Warner Communications (NPP's parent outfit) brass, as well as Superman staffers like Julie Schwartz, Curt Swan, Carmine Infantino, and Sol Harrison will attend the opening. The Amazing World of Superman mag will be out, and tons of material will be on exhibit, including things prepared specially for Metropolis by people including Neal Adams.

Nostalgia News, the combination sf and comics adzine that's been coming out of Texas for a few years, just announced that they will be running six golden age newspaper strips in each issue by arrangement with King Features. The strips are: Secret Agent X-9 (by Mel Graff & Robert Storm), Blondie, Barney Baxter In The Air (daily & Sunday), Inspector wade, and Radio Patrol. Subs are $3 for 5 issues from Box 34305, Dallas, Texas 75234.

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ET AL

UNDERGROUNDS - - FANZINES

CONVENTIONS - - CLIPPINGS

A new CONAN novella, "The Black Sphinx of Nebthu" was published in the July issue of FANTASTIC. The story was by deCamp and Carter, with a cover by Roland and an interior illo by Billy Graham. Two more novellas are projected.

The MENOMONEE FALLS GUARDIAN will be released on June 11th. It will be weekly, featuring: Broom-Hilda (daily & Sunday), Pogo (daily & Sunday), B.C., Conchy, Sally Bananas, Tumbleweeds, Beetle Bailey, Skippy (old), Krazy Kat (old), Popeye (old), Mickey Finn, Joe Palooka, ASTERIX (probable), LUCKY LUKE (possible), and ROMEO BROWN (by Holdaway and O'Donnell). Sub rates the sames as the Gazette (12 for $4.50 minimum sub) and subs are now being accepted.

The CISCO KID and KRAZY KAT Feature Books are out and June will see the release of CISCO KID #2, FLASH GORDON (from '51 by Dan Barry) and RIP KIRBY (from 46).

Alan Light's Dynapubs is releasing a new strip paper entitled Golden Funnies, which will include Buck Rogers (from the first strip), Superman, Dick Tracy, Terry & The Pirates, Tailspin Tommy, Krazy Kat, Li'l Abner, Mandrake, Brick Bradford, The Katzenjammer Kids, and Prince Valient. The first weekly issue is slated for June 1.

Alan Kupperberg & Dick Giordano are doing a story for a black & white magazine pubbed by the University of Illinois.

THE CON WITH NO NAME is a large scale film convention coming to New York City Memorial Day weekend in 1974. Membership rates go up at regular intervals as the con approaches, and details are just now beginning to be settled, so send for info to:
THE CONVENTION WITH NO NAME
P.O. Box 561
New York, N.Y. 10022

The first of the EC reprint undergrounds is back from the printer (at last) and should be in the mail to everyone by the time you are reading this. The second one, Shock Suspense #12, is scheduled for June 15th release (no more printers problems, apparently), and the third, Weird Science #15, is set for July 15th. Six more reprint undergrounds are now in the planning stage, and I'll have full details next issue.

Milt Caniff designed a 25th anniversary medal for the Air Force. The silver medal is available for only $150 from the USAF Iron Gate Foundation, P.O. Box 565, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10017. (The total proceeds go to charity so the price is tax-deductable.)

On March 17th a TV pilot entitled JARRETT featured a villain whose first love is comic books. He showed off his collection to Jarrett at one point, and posters of various DC heroes were in the back throughout.

David Pinger of 4404 Tennyson Road, Wilmington, Delaware 19802 is interested in contacting local fans about the possibility of setting up a mini-con in the Wilmington area.

WARREN Coming Comics

VAMPIRELLA #26. Vampi versus the "Demons In The Fog" (script by Len Wein?), plus: "Moonspawn" by Doug Moench and Esteban Maroto, "Doctor Morbius" by George Henderson and Auraleon, "Blood Brothers" by Lynn Marron and Ramon Torrents, "The Demon Child" by James Crawford and Ramon Torrents, and "Fringe Benefits" an eight-page color strip by Doug Moench and Jose Bea. (6/7)

FAMOUS MONSTERS #100, a one hundred page collection of the finest material from FM with very special surprise inside covers. ($1.25, 6/14)

CREEPY #55. The annual collection, featuring early stories never-before-reprinted, 2 full size color posters (like the ones displayed in Warren's ads and the Creepy Crawley Castle Game in full color on the inside covers. ($1, 6/14)

EERIE #50. The origin of Dracula by Doug Moench and Ramon Torrents, The Mummy by Steve Skeates and Jamie Brocal, The Werewolf by Allen Milgrom and Salvador, "The Monarch" by Jack Butterworth and Paul Neary, and Dax vs. Persus by Maroto. Cover by San Julian. (6/21)

progress report 1

What causes more flashbulbs to flash than a public appearance by a Mafia chief? It's the costume parade at the July Comic Art Convention, where Mister Miracle and The Ghost Rider assist Sheena onto the stage, and Captain America stands by ready to help.

It's more than the prizes (savings bonds of $100, $50, and $25 for the first three places) that draws so many contestants! It's more than the appreciative applause, too. It's pride in one's own imagination, knowledge, and creativity that prompts an otherwise normal person to become a superhero, a masked crusader for justice, and in public at that.

Three professional artists will judge the event. No professional costumes are eligible for prizes (though they may be displayed). As a token of appreciation, each contestant will receive (free) a Convention T-Shirt.

This year's masquerade will be held at 6:00 PM on Friday, July 6. Any questions? Write Debi Feliziani 36 Harrison Place, Farmingdale, New York, 11735. Or phone: (516) 293-5122.

AMATEUR ART COMPETITION

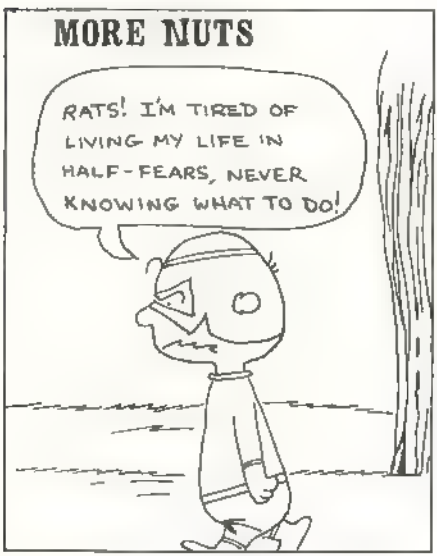
Anyone who does not earn his living as an artist is eligible for this competition. The artwork submitted will be on display throughout the 1973 Comic Art Convention and the judging (by three professional artists) will be on the final day.

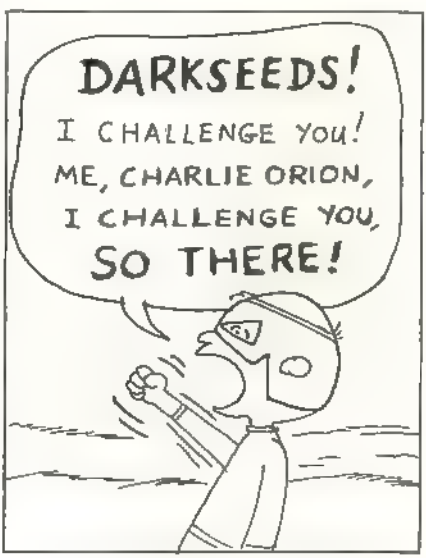
Space is a consideration, so please limit yourself to one or two pieces. Each piece must have your name and address on the back. And you must tell us how to return it to you. Will you pick it up yourself? Will someone pick it up for you? Or do you want it mailed back?

For information, write to Phil Seuling, 621 Ave. Z, Brooklyn, New York 11223.

This year's blockbuster Convention Poster is by Mike Kaluta.

A special feature at this year's con is a slide-show, narrated by artist Vaughn Bode.





A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Hey, if another month has passed, how come I feel like I just mailed out #96? It might be 'cause #96 was a week late, for which I dutifully apologize...if you have any further complaints take 'em up with my M.D.

#100. After much debate, I've decided that #100 will be a double-issue, costing subscribers 67¢ and newsstand/bookstore types 75¢. It'll feature 44 pages of the best material that I can beg, borrow, or buy, and I hope to have it all wrapped up in a multi-color wrap-around cover by Jack Kirby. Your subscription labels should be adjusted as of next issue. In other words, if it says #104 this time, it'll say #103 next time. All the usual news features will be included, of course.

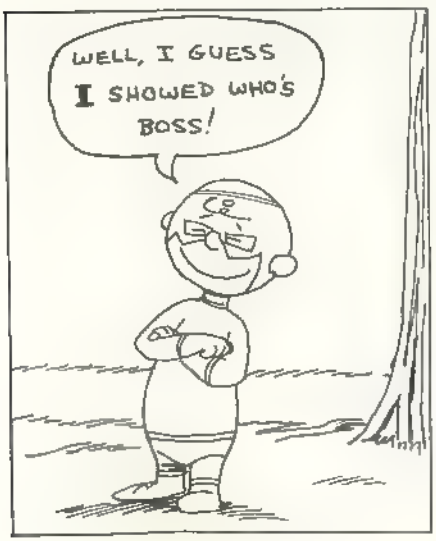
I'm pleased to note that my good friends at the Menomonee Falls Gazette have been nominated for a "Special Recognition" award by the Academy Of The Comic Book Arts. Thanks to their efforts, professionals are beginning to publicly acknowledge that they enjoy some aspects of fandom as much as most fans.

To accomodate the longer "Coming Comics" listings that arrive every summer as the publishers get ready to capitalize on their best-selling season of the year, there may not be too many Fanzine Reviews or comic Reviews in the next three or four issues. This doesn't mean that either feature is in danger of being dropped.

Another bit of very pertinent info... beginning next month, the cover price of TCR will be 40¢ per copy. The subscription prices will not change (I no longer accept a full year's sub, though. I have my doubts about the long-term continuing subbers who are already paid up through late 1974.) but those of you who shop at bookstores will have to shell out an extra nickel. The reason for this increase is simply to increase my revenue without being unfair (particularly unfair, at least) to anyone. Dealers have been paying slightly less than what is a reasonable % on TCR, and the cover price change will even things out quite nicely.

DID YOU VOTE IN THE 1972 COMIC ART FAN AWARDS? ...IF YOU DIDN'T, IT'S NOT TOO LATE! SEND IN YOUR BALLOT BY JUNE 1ST TO DON & MAGGIE THOMPSON, 8786 HENDRICKS ROAD, MENTOR, OHIO 44060 OR TO TCR PUBLICATIONS!

Etcetera is doing quite nicely, and I'm expecting #3 to be a very pretty issue when it comes out next month. Do pick up a copy if you haven't tried the mag yet, it's really turning into a good companion magazine.



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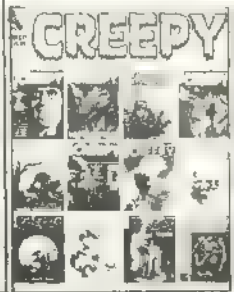

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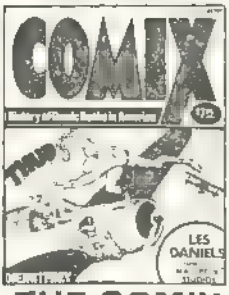

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Don't miss this one. Be there to see it all, taste it all, experience it all. Set up your vacation plans around it, and make New York in 1973 *your* place to be.

Plans will continue to be made right up to Convention time, but there are a few solid items which can be announced in advance.

Guest of Honor will be C.C. Beck, artist of the once and future *Captain Marvel*. C.C. Beck was the witty stylist behind one of the greatest comic characters ever; and to all our delight, he is again.

Additionally, Mr. Beck will have on display an array of his weapons. You will see articles of war made of iron, steel, leather, and oak, until miraculously, close scrutiny reveals the wizardry of their true construction — from paper and tin foil and balsa and cardboard. Seeing may not even then be believing!

Mac Raboy was the brilliant talent behind the *Green Lama*, *Captain Marvel, Jr.*, and at the end of his life, Flash Gordon. In the two years since his death, an exhibit has been assembled of his artwork. This retrospective show will be one of the Convention highlights.

Bill Gaines and the *Mad* gang will make a convivial appearance to discuss and promote Bill's new book recently published...

One of the panels scheduled will be called "The Treatment of War in Comic Books", and special guest panelist will be Russ Heath, truly an artist's artist, and delineator of *Sergeant Rock*.

Are you interested in writing, penciling, or inking for the comics? Then bring samples with you to demonstrate your technique and versatility — because National is looking for new talent, and will have its editors there to interview, discuss, and appraise. Where else is professional consultation available for the new writer or artist?

To talk about his beautiful new full-color, hardcover *Tarzan*, we will present Burne Hogarth, extraordinary artist of Tarzan's golden era. Of course, this session will include autographs and a question and answer period.

Film showings nightly from Wednesday to Saturday (no film program Sunday evening) from 8:00 PM to 3:00 AM, combining the best of adventure, serial, cartoon, and fantasy films!

After years of seeing "*Batman*, by Bob Kane" in hundreds of stories, convention members will get their chance to meet Bob Kane in person. See and hear this hall of fame comic book artist give the Convention's keynote talk!

The ever-growing and spectacular Costume Parade will be more exciting than ever. There will be cash prizes again, adding an incentive to everyone's ingenuity. Bring your camera and color film. Details from Debi Feliziani, 36 Harrison Place, Farmingdale, N.Y. 11735.

For everyone's fun and delight, the Convention's special guest will be Russell Myers, creator of that cigar-butt siren, that beer-can belle, *Broom Hilda*!

Postponed last year, we have scheduled again this year an exhibition of the works of Jeff Jones.

★ MEMBERSHIP

Regular membership covers all five days and includes all activities $7.00
Daily membership will be available only at the door $2.50
Supporting membership (non-attending) $2.50

All regular and supporting members who register before May 15, 1973 will be listed in order of registration in the big Souvenir Program.

★ ADVERTISING

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★ HOTEL

The Sixth Annual Comic Art Convention moves to the bigger, lovelier Hotel Commodore on New York City's Park Avenue. Next to Grand Central Terminal, the hotel is a short walk from the United Nations, the Broadway theaters, Fifth Avenue's incredible shops, Radio City, and Times Square. All trains and buses converge here. New York City is at your convenience. Every room is sound-proof and air-conditioned.

Special room rates for Convention members are:

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These special rates will apply for one week before and one week after the convention, for your vacation convenience.

The Hotel Commodore has a list of films which you can pay to watch *in your room*, rather than in a 42nd Street theater. It isn't free, but winds up being very cheap when two or more watch. This is a unique special feature of this hotel, and not just a gimmick to grab your extra bucks.

★ LUNCHEON

The Awards Luncheon will be held on Saturday, July 7. Receiving awards this year will be C.C. Beck and another guest still to be announced. Tickets to the luncheon are $7.50 each and early reservations are to everyone's advantage.

★ DEALERS

A table six feet long by 2½ feet deep is $50.00 (Price covers all five days and *one* admission) until May 15. After that the price is $60.00 per table. (By March First, 36 of 110 available tables had been sold.) Earliest reservations (payment enclosed) get best locations, although there are no bad ones.

Small (bridge) tables are available at $10.00 per day per table. Specify which days you want.

All Dealers: send fees to Phil Seuling. Information sheets will be sent out about two weeks prior to the Convention.

★ CONVENTION HOURS

Tuesday	July 3	6pm to 10pm Pre-registration
Wednesday	July 4	
Thursday	July 5	10am to 8pm daily
Friday	July 6	(and films 8pm to
Saturday	July 7	3am)
Sunday	July 8	10am to 5pm

CONVENTION CHAIRMAN

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ETCETERA

3

A THIRD TOUR DE FORCE IS COMING YOUR WAY IN MID-JUNE FROM TCR PUBLICATIONS. BESIDES OUR REGULAR DYNAMIC DEPARTMENTS AND FEATURES (DUFFY'S TAVERN, JACH SPAKE, SHOT IN THE DARK, BREAKDOWN, FANDOM FORUM, THE BOOKSHELF, TOM FAGAN, AND BoB PINAHA), WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL FEATURES:

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ETCETERA 1&2! STILL AVAILABLE!

ETCETERA 1

The first issue of The Comic Reader's new companion magazine is still in print, with only a few copies left as the third issue is being prepared for the printed.

#1 included: "Lester Dent: The Man Behind The Man" by BoB Pinaha, Breakdown by Doug Moench, The Wandering Fan by Tony Isabella, Revival-Survival by Roger Slifer, "Once Upon A Halloween" by Tom Fagan (the inside story of the fantastic Rutland parades), Shot In The Dark by Tom Greeniones, "A Spanner In The Cogs" by Steve Utley, "The Great Conan Imitators: Part One" by Paul Briggs, Duffy's Tavern by Duffy Vohland, Fandom Forum by Neal Pozner, a report on the 1972 Creation Con, Jach Spake by Jeff Wasserman, a cover by Dave Cockrum, and more.

Only 60¢...order while they're still available.

ETCETERA 2

The second issue of Etcetera is also in print, in even smaller quantities.

Included in this issue: Cover by Billy Graham, "Warp:Science Fiction On Stage" by Paul Kupperberg, a report on the 1973 Star Trek Convention with many photos, "A Short History Of British Fandom: Part One" by Nick Landau, Shot In The Dark: "Background For New Directions" by Tom Greeniones, Fandom Forum by Neal Pozner, "The Fabulous Lost And/Or Other Worlds" by Paul Briggs, "Mea Culpa" by Liam O'Connor, Ed Manley & Carl Gafford, an article on Mel Blanc by Paul Hugli, "Piecing The Undergrounds" by BoB Pinaha, Breakdown by Doug Moench, "Death-Destruction!/ Deliverance-Democracy!" by Tom Fagan, Jach Spake by Jeff Wasserman, and more.

Both issues are 44 pages, only 60¢@.

THE FOLLOWING BACK ISSUES OF THE COMIC READER ARE AVAILABLE:
MARK HANERFELD EDITED ISSUES: #74, 75, 76, 77...35¢@ (CIRCA 1969-1970)
#92: Special Christmas 1972 issue, 32 pages + supplement, full of fun...50¢
#93: January 1973 issue, limited quantity, 4-6 week delay in shipment...40¢
#94: February 1973 with Howie Chaykin's Ironwolf character on the cover.35¢
#95: March 1973 issue, Comic Art Fan Awards Ballot issue.....35¢
#96: April 1973 issue, Murphy Anderson's Spectre on the cover, full page Mike Kaluta-Shadow cover repro inside.....35¢

A clearance sale to a wholesaler is planned for the immeadiate future, so please put your order in right now. #76, 77, 92, and 93 are all in very short supply.

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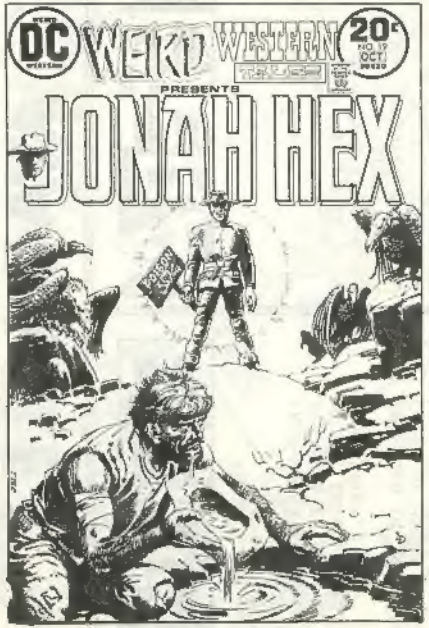

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